

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 305417

73

ORIGIN OC-05

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ISO-00 /006 R

66011

DRAFTED BY A/OC/NEA:RLLOCHMILLER (ACTING): KLH

APPROVED BY A/OC:WENAEHER

----- 079070

R 311827Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS 3585

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 305417

FOR RCO RICHARDSON

FOL REPEAT DAMASCUS 5106 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DEC 23

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 5106

DEPT FOR OC, SY AND FBO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ACOM, ABLD, ASEC

SUBJ: CCC RENOVATION, PROPERTY NO. 01476

REF: A. DAMASCUS 4561 B. STATE 288124

1. POST EVIDENTLY DID NOT SUFFICIENTLY EMPHASIZE  
KEY IF NOT OVERRIDING SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS  
BEHIND PROPOSAL REF A CABLE THAT RENOVATION WORK  
BE ACCOMPLISHED BY A CB TEAM ASSISTED BY ENLARGED  
CONTINGENT MARINE SECURITY GUARDS. POST CONSIDERS  
CONDITIONS DAMASCUS TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES  
SIMILAR TO IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES SO FAR AS  
HOSTILE ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES  
CONCERNED. THERE ARE SOME 3,000 SOVIETS RESIDENT  
THIS COUNTRY NOT TO MENTION LARGE NUMBERS OTHER BLOC  
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PAGE 02 STATE 305417

PERSONNEL. SOVIETS WORK WITH SYRIAN SECURITY. WE

KNOW FROM DATT REPORTING THAT HUNGARIANS ARE  
SPECIFICALLY AIDING SYRIANS IN THIS ACTIVITY.

2. ALL OF THIRD FLOOR AREA INCLUDING ROOF IS  
RESTRICTED SECURITY AREA BY DEFINITION AND IN FACT  
AT THIS POST. EVEN ENLARGED CONTINGENT MARINE  
SECURITY GUARDS WILL BE UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY  
SURVEIL UNDISCIPLINED LOCAL WORKMEN PENETRATING  
WHOLE EMBASSY AND SPECIFICALLY THIRD FLOOR DURING  
THIS LONG PROJECT. IT WOULD BE WISHFUL THINKING TO  
ASSUME EMBASSY DAMASCUS IS NOT TARGET FOR  
ELECTRONIC PENETRATION AND THAT LOCAL  
WORKMEN NOT SUBJECT ABSOLUTE CONTROL SYRIAN SECURITY  
IF NOT OTHER HOSTILE ELEMENTS HERE.

3. POST IS DISMAYED AT LENGTHY DELAYS ALREADY  
ENCOUNTERED IN GETTING THIS ESSENTIAL PROJECT OFF  
THE GROUND. WE ARE NOT CONFIDENT OF THE SECURITY  
OF THE CCC AREA IN ITS PRESENT CONDITION. THIS SPACE  
WAS ACCESSIBLE TO HOSTILE ELEMENTS FOR SOME SEVEN  
YEARS WHEN IT WAS OUTSIDE THE PHYSICAL CONTROL US  
NATIONALS. IN ADDITION, WORKING CONDITIONS IN PRESENT  
FACILITY AND RELIABILITY OF PRESENT COMMO EQUIPMENT  
AND SYSTEM IS DEPLORABLE. RECENT AND REPEATED  
OUTAGES OF PRESENT LEASED LINE HAVE DEMONSTRATED  
ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR NEW CCC AND BACKUP RADIO  
EQUIPMENT IF POST TO HAVE DEPENDABLE COMMUNICATIONS  
CAPABILITY.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS  
CONTAINED PARAS IV, VI AND VII REF A CABLE IN LIGHT  
FACTORS CITED ABOVE. POST CONSIDERS CB TEAM ESSENTIAL  
ACCOMPLISH WORK IN SECURE MANNER. REQUEST FULL  
ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING ARRIVAL MATERIALS AND CB  
TEAM TO GET THIS JOB DONE.

MURPHY

UNQTE  
ROBINSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 DEC 1975  
**Decapton Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE305417  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RLLOCHMILLER (ACTING): KLH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X2  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750452-0007  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN OC  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 DAMASCUS 4561, 75 STATE 288124  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CCC RENOVATION, PROPERTY NO. 01476  
**TAGS:** ACOM, ABLD, ASEC  
**To:** ATHENS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006